

While storms this winter have helped ease drought impacts in parts of California, the recent drought has reduced available surface water supplies and decreased groundwater levels throughout the state, resulting in many households with dry wells or poor water quality.

Counties are well positioned to provide the needed leadership to improve drought preparedness for vulnerable populations within its jurisdiction. Guided by Senate Bill (SB) 552 of 2021 and benefited by funding made available by the Budget Act of 2021, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) launched the **County Drought Resilience Planning Assistance Program** to help

counties facilitate drought and water shortage preparedness for state small water systems and domestic wells within their jurisdiction per requirements of SB 552.

Under DWR's County Drought Resilience Planning Assistance Program, counties can request either up to \$125,000 in **financial assistance** or **direct technical assistance** to access additional support to establish a standing Drought and Water Shortage Task Force and develop a County Drought Resilience Plan.

For more information

Visit DWR's County Drought Resilience Planning Assistance Website: water.ca.gov/SB552Counties or contact Sarah Ko at CountyDRP@water.ca.gov or (916) 873-5187.

Need Assistance?

Financial Assistance

Non-competitive financial assistance is available for counties to reimburse for planning-related staff time or other eligible expenses, interested counties can access the County Drought Resilience Plan Grant Application can be accessed at water.ca.gov/SB552Counties

Direct Technical Assistance

For direct technical assistance with planning, interested counties can access the County Drought Resilience Plan Development Application at water.ca.gov/SB552Counties

All counties are eligible applicants for a planning grant or direct technical assistance